

MISSOURIANS ARE READY FOR A NEW DIRECTION

Under the leadership of President Bush and his Republican allies in Congress, life has become more difficult for Missourians. Here are some of the ways that life has become less affordable and secure in Missouri. Democrats are working for real security, better jobs, college access for all, energy independence, affordable health care, and retirement security. It's time for a new direction in Missouri.

INCOME: MISSOURIANS ARE EARNING LESS TODAY THAN THEY WERE FIVE YEARS AGO

- In 2000, the median income in Missouri was \$49,798.¹
- In 2005, the median income in Missouri was \$43,266, a significant drop of 13.1 percent.²

HEALTH CARE: THE NUMBER OF UNINSURED IN MISSOURI HAS GROWN UNDER BUSH REPUBLICANS

- In 2000, Missouri had 519,000 adults without insurance (9.5 percent).³
- In 2005, Missouri had 691,000 adults without insurance (12.1 percent).⁴
- Missouri had 115,355 children benefit from the SCHIP Program.⁵ If funding is not restored by Congress to the SCHIP program, Missouri will face a funding shortfall of \$26,652,000.⁶

EDUCATION: THE COST OF COLLEGE CONTINUES TO RISE IN MISSOURI

- In 2001, tuition at a public four-year institution in Missouri was \$8,201.⁷ In 2005, it was \$11,356, a 38 percent increase.⁸
- In 2001, tuition at a private four-year institution in Missouri was \$17,852.⁹ In 2005, it was \$21,431, a 20 percent increase.¹⁰
- Number of Missourians affected by the lapse of the College Tuition Tax Deduction – 64,506¹¹
- Number of Missourians affected by the lapse of the Educator Expenses Tax Deduction – 64,567¹²

GAS PRICES: THE HIGH COST OF GAS CONTINUES TO BE A BURDEN FOR MISSOURI RESIDENTS

- In 2001, the average cost of gas in Missouri was \$1.379 a gallon.¹³
- Today the average cost of gas in Missouri is \$2.107 a gallon.¹⁴
- In 2001, the average annual cost of gas for a household in Missouri was \$2,126.¹⁵
- Today the average annual cost of gas for a household in Missouri is \$3,248, \$1,122 (52.8 percent) more than it was in 2001.¹⁶

SOCIAL SECURITY: MISSOURIANS DON'T WANT AN END TO SOCIAL SECURITY

- Number of Social Security Beneficiaries in Missouri – 1,046,110¹⁷⁸
- Average Monthly Benefit per Beneficiary in Missouri – \$859¹⁸

IRAQ, TROOPS AND VETERANS: MISSOURIANS ON THE FRONT LINES

- Number of Missourians killed in Iraq – 49¹⁹
- Number of Missourians wounded in Iraq – 471²⁰
- Number of Missourians killed in Afghanistan – 11²¹
- Number of Missourians wounded in Afghanistan – 19²²
- Number of Veterans in Missouri – 554,531²³

REPUBLICANS CONTINUE TO PUSH FOR GIVEAWAYS FOR A WEALTHY MINORITY WHILE IGNORING MISSOURI'S MINIMUM WAGE WORKERS

- Only 484 estates in Missouri paid an Estate Tax in 2004.²⁴
- Only 129 estates in Missouri will benefit from the Estate Tax cut in 2009.²⁵
- In contrast, 178,000 workers in Missouri would benefit from an increase in the minimum wage.²⁶

CRIME: VIOLENT CRIME IN MISSOURI IS ON THE RISE

- Number of Violent Crimes per 100,000 residents in Missouri in 2000 – 490²⁷
- Number of Violent Crimes per 100,000 residents in Missouri in 2005 – 525.4²⁸
- Amount of COPS Funding Dispersed in 2002 – 14,653,429²⁹
- Amount of COPS Funding Dispersed in 2006 – 2,669,138³⁰

TAX CUTS: BUSH TAX POLICIES BENEFIT THE WEALTHIEST MISSOURIANS

The Bush tax cuts have overwhelmingly benefited the wealthiest Missourians.

- In 2001, the richest one percent of Missouri residents each received an average of \$2,622 in tax cuts, while middle class Missouri residents received only \$381.³¹
- In 2006, the richest one percent of Missouri residents will receive an average of \$35,051 in tax cuts, while middle class Missouri residents will only receive \$683.³²
- In 2010, under the Bush tax plan, the richest one percent of Missouri residents will each receive an average of \$71,012 in tax cuts, while middle class Missouri residents will only receive \$797.³³

The richest Missourians receive an ever-growing share of the Bush tax cut.

- In 2001, the richest Missourians received 6.3 percent of the Bush tax cut, while the middle class received 18.3 percent of the tax cut.³⁴
- But, in 2006, the richest Missourians will get 25.9 percent of the Bush tax cut, while the middle class will get 10.1 percent of the tax cut.³⁵
- And, in 2010, the richest Missourians will get 45.9 percent of the Bush tax cut, while the middle class will get 10.3 percent of the tax cut.³⁶

Bush capital gains and dividend tax cuts overwhelmingly benefit the wealthiest Missourians.

- In 2010, the richest Missourians will receive an average of \$9,840 from the Bush capital gains and dividend tax cuts. That means the richest Missourians will be getting over 42.6 percent of all of the tax cut benefit.³⁷
- In contrast, in 2010, middle class Missourians will receive an average of \$75 from the Bush capital gains and dividend tax cuts. That's just 6.5 percent of the benefit going to the middle class.³⁸

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